

Amendments to the Specification:

At page ⁵~~1~~ of the Specification, please amend the first sentence of the paragraph beginning at line ³~~1~~ to read:

G1 U.S. Patent No. 5,553,609 ~~5,839,438~~ to Chen et al. issued for "Intelligent Remote Visual Monitoring System for Home Health Care Service."

At page 5 of the Specification, please amend the first sentence of the second paragraph beginning at line ¹⁰~~1~~ to read:

G2 While these ~~invention~~ inventions provide useful records management and diagnostic ~~tool~~ tools, none of them provides a comprehensive method for monitoring and providing real time critical care at disparate ICU's ICUs. In short, they are NOT designed for critical care. Further, none of these inventions provide for the care of a full time intensivist backed by appropriate database and decision support assistance in the intensive care environment. What would be useful is a system and method for providing care for the critically ill that maximizes the presence of an intensivist trained in the care of the critically ill. Further such a system would standardize the care in ICU's ICUs at a high level and reduce the mortality rate of patients being cared for in ICU's ICUs.

At page ¹³~~12~~ of the Specification, please insert the following new paragraphs following the end of the first paragraph and preceding the heading, "Brief Description of the Figures:"

G3 Embodiments of the present invention provide a system for providing continuous, expert network health care services from a remote location. The system comprises a plurality of health care locations, at least one remote command center for managing healthcare at said plurality of

health care locations, and at least one network. The plurality of health care locations are electronically connected to said at least one remote command center by the network. The at least one remote command center provides intensivist monitoring of the plurality of health care locations 24 hours per day, seven days per week.

The remote command center further comprises a computerized patient care management system for monitoring and treating individual patients at any of said plurality of healthcare locations. The computerized patient care management system further comprises a data server/data warehouse for storing and analyzing data from the at least one remote command center.

Each of the plurality of health care locations further comprises patient monitoring equipment electronically connected to the at least one remote command center over the network. In another embodiment of the present invention, each health care location further comprises a nurses' station electronically connected to said monitoring equipment and to the at least one remote command center over the network. In still another embodiment of the present invention, the healthcare locations comprise intensive care units (ICU's).

Optionally, the computerized patient care management system further comprises a relational database for storing a plurality of decision support algorithms and for prompting intensivists to provide care to patients based upon the any of the decision support algorithms. The algorithms are selected from the group consisting of algorithms for treating Acalculous Cholecystitis, Acute Pancreatitis Algorithm, Acute Renal Failure-Diagnosis, Acute Renal Failure-Management & Treatment, Adrenal Insufficiency, Agitation and Anxiety, Depression & Withdrawal, Aminoglycoside Dosing and Therapeutic Monitoring, an Amphotericin-B Treatment Guidelines, Analgesia, Antibiotic Classification & Costs, Antibigrams Algorithm,

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Antibiotic associated Colitis Algorithm, ARDS: Hemodynamic Management, ARDS: Steroid Use, ARDS: Ventilator Strategies, Asthma, Bleeding Patient, Bloodstream Infections, Blunt Cardiac Injury, Bradyarrhythmias, Brain Death, Bronchodilator Use in Ventilator Patients, Bronchoscopy & Thoracentesis Guidelines, Candiduria, Cardiogenic Shock, CardioPulmonary Resuscitation Guideline, Catheter Related Septicemia, a Catheter Replacement Strategies, Cervical Cord Injury, Congestive Heart Failure, COPD Exacerbation & Treatment, CXR (Indications), Dealing with Difficult patients and families, Diabetic Ketoacidosis, Dialysis, Diuretic Use, Drug Changes with Renal Dysfunction, Emergency Cardiac Pacing, Endocarditis Diagnosis and Treatment, Endocarditis Prophylaxis, End of Life Decisions, Endotracheal Tubes & Tracheotomy, Ethical Guidelines, Febrile Neutropenia, FUO, Fluid Resuscitation, Guillain-Barre Syndrome, Heparin, Heparin-Induced Thrombocytopenia, Hepatic Encephalopathy, Hepatic Failure, HIV + Patent Infections, Hypercalcemia Diagnosis and Treatment, Hypercalcemia Insulin Treatment, Hyperkalemia : Etiology & Treatment, Hyponatremia : Etiology & Treatment, Hypertensive Crisis, Hypokalemia : Etiology & Treatment, Hyponatremia : Etiology & Treatment, Hypothermia, Identification of Cervical Cord Injury, Implantable Cardio-defibrillator, Intra-Aortic Balloon Device, Intracerebral Hemorrhage, Latex Allergy, Magnesium Administration, Management of Hypotension, Inotropes, Management of Patients with Ascites, Empiric Meningitis, Meningitis,a Myasthenia Gravis, Myocardial Infarction, Myocardial Infarction with left bundle branch block, Necrotizing Soft Tissue Infections, Neuromuscular Blockers, Neuromuscular Complications of Critical Illness, Non-Infectious Causes of Fever, Non-Traumatic Coma, Noninvasive Modes of Ventilation, Nutritional Management, Obstetrical Complication, Oliguria, Open Fractures, Ophthalmic Infections, Organ Procurement Guidelines, PA Catheter Guideline and Troubleshooting,

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Pancreatitis, Penetrating Abdominal Injury, Penetrating Chest Injury, Penicillin Allergy,
Permanent Pacemaker and Indications, Pneumonia Community Acquired, Pneumonia Hospital
Acquired, Post-Op Bleeding, Post-Op Hypertension, Post-Op Management of Abdominal,
Post-Op Management of Carotid, Post-Op Management of Open Heart, Post-Op Management
of Thoracotomy, Post-Op Myocardial Ischemia (Non-Cardiac Arrhythmias after Cardiac
Surgery), Post-Op Power Weaning, Pressure Ulcers, Pulmonary Embolism Diagnosis,
Pulmonary Embolism Treatment, Respiratory Isolation, Sedation, Seizure, Status Epilepticus,
Stroke, Sub-Arachnoid Hemorrhage, Supra-Ventricular Tachyarrhythmia, Supra-Ventricular
Tachycardia, Wide Complex QRS Tachycardia, Therapeutic Drug Monitoring,
Thrombocytopenia, Thrombolytic Therapy, Transfusion Guidelines, Traumatic Brain Injury,
Assessment of Sedation, Sedation, Septic Shock, Bolus Sliding Scale Midazolam, Short Term
Sedation Process, Sinusitis, SIRS, Spinal Cord Injury, Steroid Replacement Strategy, Thyroid
Disease, Transplant Infection Prophylaxis, Transplant Related Infections, Treatment of Airway
Obstruction, Unknown Poisoning, Unstable Angina, Upper GI Bleeding Stress Prophylaxis,
Vancomycin, Upper GI Bleeding Non-Variceal, Upper GI Bleeding Variceal, Use of
Hematopoietic Growth Factors, Ventilator Weaning, Ventilator Weaning Protocol, Venous
Thrombosis Diagnosis and Treatment, Venous Thromboembolism Prophylaxis, Ventricular
Arrhythmia, Warfarin, Warfarin Dosing, and Wound Healing Strategies.

In yet another embodiment of the present invention, the computerized patient care
management system further comprises order writing software for providing knowledge-based
recommendations and prescriptions for medication based upon the clinical data. In another
embodiment of the present invention, the computerized patient care management system further
comprises knowledge-based vital sign/hemodynamic algorithms that prompt said intensivist to

engage in early intervention.

 Embodiments of the present invention provide methods for continuous expert critical care. Patients are monitored in a plurality of ICU's. Information from the patient monitoring is communicated to at least one command center over a first network. The information from the patient monitoring is received and analyzed at the command center over the first network; and guidance is provided from the command center to the plurality of ICU's to take actions regarding patient care. In another embodiment of the present invention, providing guidance from the command center further comprises an intensivist reviewing decision support algorithms that provide guidance for treating a plurality of critical care conditions. The algorithms are taken from the group consisting of algorithms for treating Acalculous Cholecystitis, Acute Pancreatitis Algorithm, Acute Renal Failure-Diagnosis, Acute Renal Failure-Management & Treatment, Adrenal Insufficiency, Agitation and Anxiety, Depression & Withdrawal, Aminoglycoside Dosing and Therapeutic Monitoring, an Amphotericin-B Treatment Guidelines, Analgesia, Antibiotic Classification & Costs, Antibigrams Algorithm, Antibiotic associated Colitis Algorithm, ARDS: Hemodynamic Management, ARDS: Steroid Use, ARDS: Ventilator Strategies, Asthma, Bleeding Patient, Bloodstream Infections, Blunt Cardiac Injury, Bradyarrhythmias, Brain Death, Bronchodilator Use in Ventilator Patients, Bronchoscopy & Thoracentesis Guidelines, Candiduria, Cardiogenic Shock, CardioPulmonary Resuscitation Guideline, Catheter Related Septicemia, a Catheter Replacement Strategies, Cervical Cord Injury, Congestive Heart Failure, COPD Exacerbation & Treatment, CXR (Indications), Dealing with Difficult patients and families, Diabetic Ketoacidosis, Dialysis, Diuretic Use, Drug Changes with Renal Dysfunction, Emergency Cardiac Pacing, Endocarditis Diagnosis and Treatment, Endocarditis Prophylaxis, End of Life Decisions, Endotracheal Tubes &

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Tracheotomy, Ethical Guidelines, Febrile Neutropenia, FUO, Fluid Resuscitation, Guillain-Barre Syndrome, Heparin, Heparin-Induced Thrombocytopenia, Hepatic Encephalopathy, Hepatic Failure, HIV + Patent Infections, Hypercalcemia Diagnosis and Treatment, Hypercalcemia Insulin Treatment, Hyperkalemia: Etiology & Treatment, Hyponatremia: Etiology & Treatment, Hypertensive Crisis, Hypokalemia: Etiology & Treatment, Hyponatremia : Etiology & Treatment, Hypothermia, Identification of Cervical Cord Injury, Implantable Cardio-defibrillator, Intra-Aortic Balloon Device, Intracerebral Hemorrhage, Latex Allergy, Magnesium Administration, Management of Hypotension, Inotropes, Management of Patients with Ascites, Empiric Meningitis, Meningitis, a Myasthenia Gravis, Myocardial Infarction, Myocardial Infarction with left bundle branch block, Necrotizing Soft Tissue Infections, Neuromuscular Blockers, Neuromuscular Complications of Critical Illness, Non-Infectious Causes of Fever, Non-Traumatic Coma, Noninvasive Modes of Ventilation, Nutritional Management, Obstetrical Complication, Oliguria, Open Fractures, Ophthalmic Infections, Organ Procurement Guidelines, PA Catheter Guideline and Troubleshooting, Pancreatitis, Penetrating Abdominal Injury, Penetrating Chest Injury, Penicillin Allergy, Permanent Pacemaker and Indications, Pneumonia Community Acquired, Pneumonia Hospital Acquired, Post-Op Bleeding, Post-Op Hypertension, Post-Op Management of Abdominal, Post-Op Management of Carotid, Post-Op Management of Open Heart, Post-Op Management of Thoracotomy, Post-Op Myocardial Ischemia (Non-Cardiac Arrhythmias after Cardiac Surgery), Post-Op Power Weaning, Pressure Ulcers, Pulmonary Embolism Diagnosis, Pulmonary Embolism Treatment, Respiratory Isolation, Sedation, Seizure, Status Epilepticus, Stroke, Sub-Arachnoid Hemorrhage, Supra-Ventricular Tachyarrhythmia, Supra-Ventricular Tachycardia, Wide Complex QRS Tachycardia, Therapeutic Drug Monitoring,

Thrombocytopenia, Thrombolytic Therapy, Transfusion Guidelines, Traumatic Brain Injury, Assessment of Sedation, Sedation, Septic Shock, Bolus Sliding Scale Midazolam, Short Term Sedation Process, Sinusitis, SIRS, Spinal Cord Injury, Steroid Replacement Strategy, Thyroid Disease, Transplant Infection Prophylaxis, Transplant Related Infections, Treatment of Airway Obstruction, Unknown Poisoning, Unstable Angina, Upper GI Bleeding Stress Prophylaxis, Vancomycin, Upper GI Bleeding Non-Variceal, Upper GI Bleeding Variceal, Use of Hematopoietic Growth Factors, Ventilator Weaning, Ventilator Weaning Protocol, Venous Thrombosis Diagnosis and Treatment, Venous Thromboembolism Prophylaxis, Ventricular Arrhythmia, Warfarin, Warfarin Dosing, and Wound Healing Strategies.

In another embodiment, a method further comprises a data server/ data warehouse storing and analyzing patient data from the at least one command center and providing analysis in results over a second network to the at least one command center.